



DELMARVA AGRICULTURE DATA WEEKLY BROILER CHICKS REPORT

03/31/04
BC-13-04

PLACEMENTS DOWN 7%

For the week ending Mar 27, 2004, growers placed 11.3million broiler chicks in Delmarva growing houses, according to the Maryland Agricultural Statistics Service. These placements were 7.2% below the comparable week a year earlier. Broiler-type chicks hatched (11.3 million) decreased 7.2% from the comparable week in 2003. Eggs set in incubators during the week totaled 13.9 million, a decrease of 3.0% from the same week a year earlier. Federally inspected slaughter on Delmarva was 0.0 million for the week ending Mar 20, 2004 compared to 10.9 million slaughtered during the same week in 2003.

BROILER-TYPE EGGS SET AND BROILER CHICKS PLACED ON DELMARVA

WEEK ENDING	EGGS SET 1/ PREV YR	CURR YR	CHICKS HATCHED 1/ PREV YR	CURR YR	CHICKS PLACED 2/ PREV YR	CURR YR
----- THOUSANDS -----						
01/31/04	14,662	13,432	11,744	11,194	11,744	11,194
02/07/04	14,547	13,500	11,787	11,358	11,790	11,358
02/14/04	13,226	13,842	11,870	11,058	11,871	11,058
02/21/04	13,818	13,901	12,082	10,922	12,084	10,922
* 02/28/04	14,050	14,024	11,961	10,990	11,961	10,990
* 03/06/04	14,829	13,917	10,815	11,199	10,817	11,199
* 03/13/04	14,995	13,782	11,405	11,226	11,405	11,226
* 03/20/04	14,400	13,774	11,592	11,393	11,595	11,393
03/27/04	14,356	13,931	12,210	11,328	12,210	11,628

1/ For all broiler-type chicks, including those intended for hatchery flocks.

2/ The difference between chicks hatched and placed includes chicks withdrawn for hatchery flocks, inshipments and outshipments. None of those numbers are published to avoid disclosure of proprietary information.

* Revised.

NEGOTIATED PRICE FOR TRUCKLOT OF READY-TO-COOK, ICE-PACK, GRADE A FRYERS (\$ per CWT) 1/

	WEEK ENDING 04/03/04	PREV. WEEK	PREV. MONTH	PREV. YEAR
New York Weighted Avg	76.33	76.39	76.36	51.41
12-City Composite 2/	76.77	76.52	75.09	58.01

1/ Source: U.S.D.A., Poultry Market News.

2/ 12-cities: Boston/New England, Chicago, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Denver, Detroit, Los Angeles, New York, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, St. Louis and San Francisco.